

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01
INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06
SP-02 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-04
H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SS-15 MCT-01 DHA-02
SCS-05 SCA-01 /111 W
-----142204Z 067329 /72

R 141722Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2063

UNCLAS BOGOTA 5512

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: ASEC, PINS, CO
SUBJECT: BANK, MILITARY RANSOM POLICIES CONFIRMED

1. FOLLOWING THE RECENT RANSOMING OF THE GENERAL MANAGER OF THE FRANCO-ITALIAN BANK IN BOGOTA, GIUSEPPE MONDINI (SEE BOGOTA 5429). THE BANK'S ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER CONFIRMED HIS COMPANY'S POLICY OF REFUSING RANSOM PAYMENTS AND URGED OTHER LOCAL COMPANIES TO FOLLOW SUIT, IN A JUNE 13 ARTICLE IN THE DAILY "EL ESPECTADOR".

2. THE BANKER CALLED SUCH PAYMENTS A "STIMULUS FOR KIDNAPPERS" WHO EXPECT TO RECEIVE LARGER RANSOMS FROM THE VICTIM'S COMPANY THAN FROM HIS FAMILY. HE NOTED THAT THE BANK REFUSED THE KIDNAPPERS' DEMANDS IN ORDER TO DISCOURAGE KIDNAP ATTEMPTS AGAINST BANK EMPLOYEES. HE ADMITTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE COMPANY LENT 1 MILLION PESOS FOR MONDINI'S RANSOM TO HIS FAMILY. THE ARTICLE ALSO QUOTED THE COMMANDER OF THE MILITARY INSTITUTES BRIGADE, WHICH HAS JURISDICTION IN THE BOGOTA AREA, AS CONFIRMING THE COLOMBIAN MILITARY'S POLICY (UNDER THE PRESENT STATE OF SIEGE THE MILITARY HANDLES KIDNAPPING CASES) OF PROSECUTING "THOSE WHO IN ANY FORM FACILITATE THE PAYMENT OF A RANSOM."

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3. COMMENT: THE MILITARY'S POLICY SO FAR APPARENTLY APPLIES ONLY TO PERSONS WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE VICTIM'S FAMILY. MONDINI'S WIFE PAID THE KIDNAPPERS HERSELF AND HAS NOT BEEN PROSECUTED, WHILE NON-FAMILY MEMBERS INVOLVED IN THE RANSOMING OF USC GUSTAVO CURTIS REMAIN IN JAIL (SEE BOGOTA 4915).

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BOGOTA05512
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770212-0789
Format: TEL
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770661/aaaacayl.tel
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Litigation History:
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